

Earth X First!

Action Update

No.44 December Yule edition 1997

'Drawn by the Cries of the Winged Wild Geese, the Blind Dogs Gaze' Kohjin Sakamoto (and a Partridge in a Pear Tree)

SMASHING GOOD TIME AT DOE HILL!

Friday 31st October was the last day for submissions to the government's "Openness Coal Review" which has been out for consultation since July. As usual EPI went further than the 'normal' channels for making our views known, deciding that a site occupation would make the point. Well, some of us did - when thought maybe even that wouldn't make our views clear enough.

Some innovative precautions were taken to prevent being tackled, such as swapping mobile phones in silent fail. Mysteriously, the police didn't seem so interested. At 6.15pm, a truck and 3 vans all arrived at different points of the Doe Hill House adjacent mine at Tibshelf near Chesterfield. It is a site owned by J L Banks a particularly notorious company, known for their habit of extending sites on which they have planning permission, thus making much larger areas than they would originally be allowed to. The site at Tibshelf has a tall head - almost selected of the open cast sites, and a sign that they're clearly planning to treat that area for a number of years.

As dawn broke further vehicles arrived from the meeting point in Barnsley. A drive of one of the coaches wasn't too far from the gangway of his clients and tried to grab them up to a quarry worker. Unluckily he picked a miner who was, in fact, a scout who'd been checking the area for police before our arrival.

The site was covered in minutes and totally dismantled within an hour. Numerous people displaying vigour not commonly seen at such an early hour. Several lighting rigs were given flying

lessons, proving that Newnes's First Law is alive and crashing. Lemmings looked on in interest. According to the police, the damage was estimated at £175,000 and the workers were laid off for a week while equipment was repaired.

As it all happened so quickly - 30 people were off to take over the offices of Harry Banks in nearby Chesterfield. Having been persuaded that they'd be able to send a fax to the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions at 2.15 they were all waiting when they arrived at 1.50. There were 47 actors, including a woman with a baby and several people who were only sitting outside. Only 3 people managed to avoid damage by being in the car park at the time, one of whom had gone out to listen to 'The Ashes' on his car. Everyone else's reflection got imprinted - maybe parking in the car parks of the offices that were being occupied was not such a good idea.

Everyone was released without charge, some after over 24 hours, and he had to return in January, except for one Mike who had a warrant out. There was a meeting on 16th Nov for everyone who was arrested and there will be another one on 8th December, probably in Sheffield. Phone Leeds EPI 0113 382 1500.



No Operator is a campaign run by the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and supported by Women Against Pit Closures and its members of the Miners Support Groups which did so much for the miners during the strike in the 80s and the pit closures in the 90s. Inspired by *Wendell's* *Unholy Trinity* and the *Twins* open campaign to elect new members' dues and commitment and by the more than 20,000 *Unholy Trinity* planning process they decided to take more radical action. Contact 0171 683 1821.

GANDALF GETS THREE YEARS...

On Thursday 13th November the GANDALF trial resulted in 3 years imprisonment. The State had brought charges against the editors of *Green Anarchist* and the Annual Liberator Trust Supporters Group Newsletter (hence 'GA AND ALTF') for 'conspiracy to incite persons to commit or cause criminal damage'. One ALTFSU newsletter editor was found 'not guilty' and other defendants will be tried at a later date. As appeal is being prepared.

The 3 convicted defendants had merely been publishing news of a wide range of current direct action (in the UK and in other countries) by progressive and alternative activists. The court had found this to be seditious simply reporting direct action news or discussing political questions around it is *in itself* an *in itself* crime punishable by up to 10 years imprisonment. Passing sentence Judge David Sedwell stated, 'Those who incite such actions and who hope such actions will increase and proliferate are, at least in my view, as guilty as those who take part in violent direct action.'

Freedom of expression, association and lifestyle are supposedly guaranteed by the UN Charter but the way the conspiracy/insolent laws have been used in the GANDALF case has demonstrated how easily these rights are violated in the UK.

In the wake of the first Green Anarchist is being published as usual and some 40 alternative publications have signed up in support of Green Anarchist and carried statements condemning the GANDALF prosecution. A statement of solidarity signed by over 100 publications and individuals pointed out that: 'Without a fearless and free press there can be no informed discussion and participation in public life. It is the reporting of direct action which incites further direct action: environmental degradation, animal abuse, economic inequality, attacks on freedom, weapons exports, nuclear weapons, lack of democratic process.' These, among many others, are the working factors.

A public organising meeting has been called by the MEdge Support Campaign and London Greenpeace for all those who wish to help defend and support the independent, radical press and to encourage successful widespread defence of State censorship and to free the GandalF 3. The meeting will take place on Wednesday 17th December, 7pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Sq, WC1 (Holborn tube).

The GANDALF 3 need your letters and support - write to: Steve Smith GK423, Stone Barnhill-Wood GK421 and Neil Mollard GK431 at RMP Winchester, Roney Road SO12 5DF.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Plans are under way for a West Country activist gathering of some shape or form in Bath on the weekend of 17th - 18th January. Things are well away from the planning stage - whether it's a big CIV conference or a small get together in a hall depends on how many people want to help. Ideas and help to 01235 312888

Corporate Watch 5 and 6, is out for £2 (£3 if you can afford it). Includes news, campaign updates, alternative media contacts list and special features on the mainstream media, however, the Elsie hypox, oil spill, the reference MAJ and basic news

Three routes have been proposed for a Westbury, Wiltshire bypass although there is as yet no focus for a campaign against it. Following successful opposition to the development of the A36, the A350 is now set to be 'improved', damaging stanchions of countryside. Contact Willmott EPI 01249 838678

Asma Tai Supplies are activists providing climbing and other gear at cost price. Contact Bob, 16 Shorelands Avenue, Leeds LS7 3HR, Tel 0113 262 8365 corporatewatch@aspt.org

This Land is Our Land by Maxon Shoult is a new book looking at land conflict in Britain and challenges the idea the land can ever be wholly the property of its private owners, arguing instead that land must be shared by all. It also looks at the rise of aboriginal land claims in Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Available from Class Books 0171 323 4910

BP's 'Talk as what you think' web page has the new title of 'How Can We Help?' Answers at <http://www.bpsoc.org.uk/bp/press/pj>

Dave Callender, the annual rights activist, recently appeared against a 10 year prison sentence for an action - his sentence was reduced by 3 years, the judge ruling as over-enthusiastic overruling the conviction. Dave will be eligible for parole next October - in the meantime remember that he is in there for us and we are out here for him and all that jazz and write to Dave Callender, HMFP Birmingham, Winsor Green Road, Birmingham B15 8AN

On 23-25 Feb 1998, 600 representatives from the People's Global Action against Free Trade and the WTO will meet in Geneva for the first conference of a new world-wide co-ordination of activists against the global market and the Multilateral Agreement on Investment. Contact: Playfair Europe, Tinner 3,53273 Aachen, Germany Tel +49 241 8937192 Email playfair@state-web-achen.de

An Oxford student group raised eyebrows by staging a mock marriage outside the University's Earth Sciences building. Worried that they might actually be going green - they're also doing research into life on the deep sea bed and global warming - protesters were soon reassured when they arrived and saw the amount of Shell sponsorship. The banner featured a big heart with 'Earth Sciences 4 Oil Wedded to Climate Change'

KINGSTON CAMP

In the latest inner city use occupation, protesters have taken to the trees in Kingston, west London to try and prevent 56 poplar trees in Canbury Gardens, a public river walk on the side of the Thames, from being felled. A beach and an oak tree at either end of the line of poplars are not threatened, most houses have been built in them and in three other poplars. Walkways are being constructed between all the poplars and the tree houses at the moment.

The poplar trees stand between a luxury residential development, under construction, and the River Thames. The council agreed to allow the builder to cut down the trees as part of the consent to the original planning application. However, locals have objected about this and they were not very happy when they found out that their scenic river walk was going to be split by an ugly encroaching development instead of the ageing but beautiful poplars. The chair/planning officer who negotiated the original deal is buying one of the fells in the development!

The next full council meeting is on December 16th. Until then, the Council has issued a warning that if it won't evict but the chances of overruling the decision are extremely slim.

The good news is that the builders must get a felling licence from the Council before they can even walk onto Canbury Gardens. Also, the Council may be obliged to provide details of the terms of the felling licence to interested parties to campaigners might even get to know the exact dates.

Meanwhile Kingston Borough will be putting a Summary Possession Order in the High Court on 8th December

Needed: people, people, people and especially climbers. There is space to camp at the foot of the trees. To get there: Train: Brixton Waterloo to Kingston and walk north to Canbury Gardens (10 miles) or North London Line to Richmond and cycle south (4 miles) to Canbury Gardens.

Contact on 0181 496253 To get on telephone tree: Annals/Levy 0181 287 3118

OIL-FREE FUTURE

Reclaim the Streets (RTS) activists occupied a derelict central London petrol station in direct response to the already severely undermined Kyoto climate change summit that began Monday 1st. The occupation, known as STRIKE OIL, was given a resounding send-off on Friday evening by a 150-strong Critical Mass, (complete with pedal-powered sound system). It was set in last and the next weekend as a car-free, corporate-free, community-friendly zone.

There was a steady stream of activists, kids and locals dropping in throughout the week. Ecoop and Food Not Bombs provided great food initially, and every weekday was a vegan Car-free Commuter Café. Along with security music and traffic defusing flares. An information stall was set up with practical advice on how to look out of oil habit, and even Bill Clinton, complete with devil's horns, strolled amongst the heavy City Road traffic to distribute Strike Oil leaflets. Passers-by couldn't fail to notice the banners hung round the three sides of the street, roof reading 'OILGRIIT, FLOODS, FAMINE, POLLUTION, CORPORATE MILLS', 'POSSIBLE FUELS = CLIMATE CHAOS', and 'SUN, WAVE, WIND, BIKE-CORPORATE-FREE'

A STRIKE OIL spokesperson said 'The Kyoto summit looks like becoming the nadir of human attempts at environmental protection. Yet again world leaders have been misled and lulled into inaction by corporate interests, leaving nothing but toxic rhetoric. We believe the time has come to free ourselves from the oil industry's stranglehold on our lives. STRIKE OIL is a step in that direction, a step that is a celebration of community, clean air and a car-free third millennium.'

LORD SIMON TOLD

'NO' TO PATENTS ON LIFE

On Tuesday 19th November Lord Simon, Minister for Trade and Competitiveness in Europe, Director of RTZ and BP trustee, wrote at his house in London to the sight of 12 "tenacious activists" looking for footholds on his roof and taking samples from his garden plants. "Patent pending" markers were applied to any remaining bit of living material. As the scientists checked out Lord Simon's back garden for biodiversity, others with banners and megaphones asked him to say 'No' to Patents on Life. Simon was due to approve the EU Life Patents Directive that same week.

The EU Life Patents Directive explicitly allows companies to take out patents on life - genes, cells, whole plants and animals and human body parts. The proposed directive has outraged an unprecedented range of groups - from scientists, Third World development workers, environmentalists, plant and animal breeders, human rights activists, politicians, church leaders and consumer groups. The groups oppose the directive on the grounds that it will give monopoly control to multinational, essentially life, medical research, extend multinational power over the South's biodiversity and promote genetic engineering. Contact Genetic Engineering Network 0181 374 9516

NORWEGIAN WHALER SCUTTLED

On November 11, the Mordit, the 35 foot whaling vessel owned by a Norwegian parliamentarian and whaler, was sunk in Norway. Activists explained that the ship's air valve was dismantled and opened and the vessel sank in several metres of water. Mechanical and electrical damage was extensive.

The Mordit is the second whaling ship in 12 days to be scuttled in Norway.

Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Society said that the sinkings are a retaliation for Norwegian support for the International Whaling Commission's continued global moratorium on commercial whaling. Norwegian delegates walked out of an IWC meeting in Moscow in October to avoid discussion of their country's illegal whaling activities.

This anger is spawning the momentum is being provided by a campaign of attacks on Norwegian whalers meant to keep insurance premiums high and to increase severity costs for the purpose of expediting the outlaw whaling industry economically. "Whales said"

Earlier this year, the Norwegian government stated that protest against Norwegian whaling is dead and that the international public was accepting their whaling activities.

NO SHOP DAY 1997

This year's International No Shop Day saw hundreds of groups across the planet, and around 30 throughout England, Scotland and Wales take part in actions designed to make the personal question 'How Much is Enough?' Despite the fact that the Independent took exception to the dangerous idea that we might just maybe, need to reduce our consumption of 'vast quantities of materials and raw materials if we're going to have a habitable planet' for the future, the Manchester students took to the streets...

How to Contact the Earth First! Action Update

Post: Earth First! Action Update, Dept 39, 1 Newton Street, Manchester M1 1NW. Telephone: 0961 224 4846, E-mail: actionupdate@efn.org. Enclose a SAE for replies. Send us your details if you want to subscribe to the free e-mail service. Earth First! Website address: <http://www.brc.wales.ac.uk/vamp/plan/earthfirst.html>

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1997 BILLBOARD BLACKOUT CHAMPIONSHIPS

UK plc had the good fortune of being selected to host the world's first ever Billboard Blackout Championships in the week leading up to this year's No Ship Day. Subscribers delisted their names and three corporate images from billboards nationally to create Ad Free Zones. Teams were invited to enter for their "kill-on, full-frontal attack on planet marketing consumerism", with a suggestion that they divide up their town or city between teams. Entries included blacked out writing on adverts and subverted slogans. The closing date for the competition is undisclosed.

NUCLEAR NEWS

Fuelless Trident campaigners started the month by twice stopping a nuclear convoy carrying over a graveyard and buried themselves in front of the lorries. Two disabled an underground and gas pipelines climbed on top of the carrier. The convoy was held up for thirty minutes and four people got arrested. Later on in Whitstable there were banners, petrol bombs and three more arrests. One protestor was tackled in the ground, leaving his glasses smashed and was refused access to a doctor for his wounds.

RECLAIM THE STREETS GOES GLOBAL

Road rage became road rage across the globe as major streets in Australia, France and Britain were reclaimed on the same date as the Oxford event. The Sydney street party was the first of its kind in Australia and was a major celebration with in Lyons, France, a few hundred people danced black garb and processed through the streets. They sang funeral songs and dragged a shrouded car with Death on top, who shed the car with her scythe. "L'air, c'est la mort" (the air is death) and "L'air, ce n'est, ce n'est, ce n'est pas la mort" (the air is death, kills and pollutes) they solemnly sang.

The procession stopped at a busy road with narrow pavements crisscrossed with people and undercover cops were powerless to prevent the dead car being dragged across the street. A tripod was set up at the other end, and for the black and red kerchchief-spattered people dead on the road, a busch straightaway raised with acoustic music, fluting whistles, banners, just-overlaid symbols and flowers. For Lyones RTS contact: Collectif pour des Rues Libres: +33-4-72 90 23 27 crp@unilim.fr www

BARRY HORNE TO APPEAL

On 12th November, after a 10 day trial, a jury found Barry Horne guilty of six charges of arson and attempted arson on the Isle of Wight in 1994. Sentence has been adjourned until Friday 3rd December for pre-sentence reports.

Barry had pleaded guilty to attempted arson in Bristol in 1996 but the prosecution case was that the devices were so similar to those used in the Isle of Wight attacks that the same person was responsible for both. Both the judge and the prosecution accepted that all the evidence linking the two attacks was circumstantial, there was no fingerprint or any other forensic evidence, a photo-fit portrait released shortly after the Isle of Wight attacks bore no resemblance to Barry, and forensic eye-witnesses failed to pick out Barry on 10 occasions. Despite all this the judge stated that there was an abundance of evidence.

After the verdict Barry's lawyer immediately announced that he would be appealing, mostly on the grounds that the judge rendered the jury on some crucial points. Barry's sentencing will take place at Bristol Crown Court on Friday 3rd December. Contact the Barry Horne Support Campaign 0976 206724.

GREENPEACE OCCUPIES SHIPMENT OF GENETIC SOYA

Earlier this month Greenpeace accepted a shipment of genetically engineered soya at the ADM (Archer Daniels Midland) terminal in Rotterdam in the Netherlands, as part of a new Genetic Hazard Panel of Europe.

To alert the public to the contamination of their food supply Greenpeace Genetic Hazard Panels will target shipments of genetically altered soya and maize coming from the US into the European Union. This year's US soya harvest is 13% of the total crop, in 1996 it was only 1-2%. Soya beans are used in about 60 percent of processed food products sold in supermarkets. Contact Genetic Engineering Network 0881 574 5516.

ACTIVISTS' EXCHANGE WITH PENNSYLVANIA?

A Pennsylvania project known as the Allegheny Defense Project (ADP) is interested in doing an activists' exchange with a UK group. The ADP describes itself as "a bi-regional, organisation dedicated to finding community-based solutions for restoring the ecological integrity and building sustainable economies benefiting the health of all forest communities on the Allegheny National Forest". When they deal mostly with the US Forest Service's

management and international timber baron's clearing of US National Forests. The nature and content of the exchange would be up to those taking part. Contact Philadelphia ADP contact, 1227 Heather Road, Ambler, Pa 19002, USA. (854) 226 4918 adp@ec.earthlink.org

HAPPY CAMPING ON BIRMINGHAM NORTHERN RELIEF ROAD ROUTE

A camp has been set up on the route of the proposed Birmingham Northern Relief Road. The new revision discloses it is principally a start-up site to introduce people already involved in the campaign to nonviolent direct action and to inform others. Although construction isn't due to start for about 14 months, hopes to raise the political and financial profile of the campaign have already paid off. Since the camp was set up the campaign has been in local or national media every day. To date the site featured a couple of conferences and a month-long which acts as an information centre, "the next year" according to its creators.

The 27 miles long, 6 lane wide Birmingham Northern Relief Road will be Britain's first privately owned toll motorway although research has already suggested that the road will not be economically viable. The Department of Transport's own figures predict that the road will actually increase congestion northwards on the M6 by 40%. The Highway Agency are therefore planning to spend £4.5 billion of public money on widening the M6 to cope with the extra traffic, all part of the London to Manchester superhighway and Burslem to Dublin.

Despite winter's icy blizzards signs remain high and others are welcome to join. "If you're feeling adventurous in just very, very heavy rain perhaps you'd like to come and spend a while on site. Experience the thrill of living in the trees the excitement of looking over an open site, the intellectually stimulating arguments about whether humans is better than chaos." They also promise not to sing Bob Dylan songs but (don't see to the whistles needed to point as yet).

For directions and further info contact 0797 0301978.



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The Multilateral Agreement Investment

(The following is adapted from an article in Winter 97 Corporate Watch)

The proposed Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) is the latest step in the globalisation of the world economy. It is the avowal of the OECD which provides research and analysis on economic conditions in order to assist its members' development. It is less well known for its role in setting rules and regulations.

The MAI will be a treaty between signatory nations that will signal a further opening up of markets. It provides a single predictable set of rules to replace the myriad bi-lateral agreements between countries and as such will replace all previous agreements that have been made between signatory states and will over-ride all laws that conflict with it. It guarantees the right to own or acquire any asset, related rights such as the ability to operate a business, and the freedom to transfer funds and capital as and when desired. The only economic sector excluded from the scope of the agreement is defence.

The stated intention is innocent-sounding enough to level the playing field for all investors so that all parties be their small local companies or giant multinationals will be treated equally regardless of nationality. The bulk of the MAI is devoted to specific ways of preventing discrimination. Any and all performance requirements on investors will be banned. Under the terms of the agreement levels of obligations on investors (amongst others) which are specifically outlawed include prescribed levels of export of goods even though a nation's balance of payments may suffer, setting required levels of domestic content in the products of an enterprise, the transfer of technology or other proprietary knowledge to the local community, requiring that enterprises must be joint ventures with local partners, to achieve a given level or value of production, investment, manufacturing, sales, employment or R&D within a nation's territory.

In short, none of the obligations that are traditionally used to protect and manage local economies may be placed on an investor. Furthermore governments will be barred from interfering with companies because of the nature of their operations elsewhere in the world. If a company exploits slave labour in Burma no government may take this as grounds to hinder or in any way interfere with their free entry into a market.

TNCs will be free to bring into a country the personnel they choose. Obligations will also be included that will require the repatriation of investors in the event of their assets being expropriated or interfered with.

Much of the document comprises a long list of prohibitions, imposing limitations on the power of central and regional government to regulate the actions of business. The MAI goes a great deal further than previous treaties which have maintained the sovereignty of national governments to manage their own economies in line with their development objectives. Yet there are further provisions giving even greater power to investors.

A BILL OF RIGHTS FOR TRANSNATIONALS

The MAI grants investors the right to directly challenge national and local laws when they are deemed to be in breach of MAI provisions, and causes, or are likely to cause loss or damage to an investor or investment. This may lead to absurd situations of cash-strapped local government being vulnerable to legal action directly from TNCs which have far greater resources.

Rules are provided for settling government-to-government disputes and for investor-to-government disputes. No reciprocal mechanism is provided for taking legal action against TNCs, a point that has been made much of by campaigners against the agreement. The reason for this is very simple. There is nothing in the agreement that an investor could be found in breach of. The MAI constitutes a bill of rights for transnational investors, but whilst it bestows new rights and freedoms on investors there are no responsibilities or obligations placed upon them.

Further sections of the agreement provide for a 'rollback' of existing legislation that conflicts with the MAI and a 'standstill' mechanism preventing the enactment of new legislation.

No nation will be allowed to withdraw from the agreement for at least five years after it is signed. All existing investments will be covered by the full range of protections for a further fifteen years after withdrawal.

How the MAI will work out cannot be precisely predicted. The world has never had such a far reaching agreement before but in every one of the hundred or so cases through before it in its three years, the WTO has ruled in favour of corporate interests. There is little reason to imagine that MAI procedures will be any less partial.

OPPOSITION GROWS

So many special exemptions from the scope of the MAI have been filed that the negotiations, due to finish in May 97, have been dramatically slowed. Few governments, except it seems the UK's, are actually daft enough to believe their own rhetoric about free markets. America, the most vocal champion of free trade and yet traditionally the most protectionist of capital or economies, has produced the longest list of exemptions and has the muscle to insist on them. The UK delegation, by contrast, has now dropped its one proposed exemption of fishing rights.

Worldwide, a coalition of NGOs has formed to try to stop the negotiations and is led in the UK by the World Development Movement, Friends of the Earth, Oxfam and the WWF. Focusing on environmental and labour issues, these groups are highlighting the dangers of deregulation. One of the chief concerns is that as capital is given greater mobility countries are put under pressure to provide the most favourable conditions to investors. Across Europe countries have been dropping corporation tax and deregulating the labour market for years in an effort to attract foreign investment. At the same time there is a tendency for the most polluting and labour intensive industries to shift to countries with lower standards and costs. Exactly the same phenomenon has been occurring within the NAFTA area.

Much of the 'developing' world is expressing deep concern about the OECD's plans. Their fear is that the MAI will not stay within the OECD nations, but will form the basis for a global agreement. Also developing nations will be under pressure to sign up to the MAI on a take-it-or-leave-it basis, without having had any input into its design. If they do not sign up investment can simply go elsewhere.

THE CAMPAIGN

In October 2004 it was the NGO coalition returned to Paris to consult with the OECD. The group of NGOs, 29 strong, issued an ultimatum. If their list of eight demands was not met in full they would denounce their overbilled resources to campaigning against the MAI. Their demands included the armed air halting of negotiations, independent assessments of likely environmental and social impacts, and the incorporation of binding regulations on multinational investors. They were ignored.

FAILURE OF GLOBAL REGULATION

After intense lobbying by the NGOs the British government is now pushing to have the OECD's 'Guidelines For Multinational Enterprises' closely associated with the MAI. Unfortunately the guidelines are purely voluntary and non-binding. There are no binding international regulations in effect today that impose obligations or responsibilities on the multinationals. At a global level there are still no guidelines, even voluntary ones, regarding the conduct of TNCs.

THE POST DEMOCRATIC WORLD

If enacted, the MAI will inevitably spell further degradation of environments and societies, by further deregulating the activities of TNCs. It will also increase the power of the corporations at the expense of elected governments. For national governments to sign away their own power seems, at first, highly unlikely. On the other hand, perhaps it betrays the true nature of the relationship between government and industry in the rich nations. Could this be why there has been no public consultation?

Negotiations at the OECD began in 1995 and were intended to conclude in May 1997. Throughout they were conducted in absolute secrecy with minimal media coverage. It was only in late 1996 after leaked drafts of the report were published on the internet that the NGOs were allowed consultation with the OECD. The CBI however, which is affiliated to the Business and Industry Advisory Council - the OECD's business lobby - reports that industry groups have been actively involved in lobbying for such an agreement since the early '90s.

It seems reasonable to conclude that in the quest to create what our OECD spokesperson describes as "the continuation of a single global economy" democracy has become an expendable notion.

For information on how to get involved in the campaign to stop the Multilateral Agreement on Investment contact Corporate Watch Box E, 1111 Magdalen Rd, Oxford, OX4 1RQ 01865 791391 info@corporatewatch-uk.org or visit <http://www.ourworld.org/oi/>

